

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO PENNSYLVANIA
STATE TROOPER LANDON E.
WEAVER

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, we started this week with National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. I appreciate every colleague of mine who came to praise our men and women who keep us safe in the most perilous of times. The greatest souls of this nation run towards the danger, never thinking of themselves, but always ensuring those around them are safe. These men and women are our protectors, our guards, our stalwarts. And I rise today to pay tribute to one of the greatest in our nation, who was senselessly and tragically taken from us too soon.

Landon Eugene Weaver was a proud son of Pennsylvania. He was born in Altoona, and graduated from Central High School in Martinsburg. He attended the Indiana University of Pennsylvania until he was accepted into the Pennsylvania State Police Academy in Hershey, achieving his life-long dream to become a State Trooper. On June 4th last year, he married his high school sweetheart Macy at Zion Lutheran Church in Williamsburg. Thirteen days later, Trooper Weaver graduated from the State Police Academy and was assigned to Troop G of the Pennsylvania State Police, Huntingdon Barracks where he proudly swore his life to protecting and defending our commonwealth. Like most of us, Landon and his wife had big plans for the New Year and their life ahead. They were going to buy a house and start a family together. Landon was going to continue doing the only job he has ever wanted to do—protect his community as a Pennsylvania State Trooper.

Mr. Speaker, Trooper Weaver's short watch came to an end on December 30, 2016, just 49 days after his 23rd birthday. Trooper Weaver was responding to a domestic incident in Juniata Township, Huntingdon County, when he was shot and killed. He died doing what he did every day, trying to make life for others a little bit better and a little bit safer than the day before.

Last Thursday, January 5th, was Landon's funeral. It was here, Mr. Speaker, where the true magnitude of our community's loss could be felt the most. His wife Macy, now a young widow, was forced to say farewell to her best friend and husband. Landon's parents had to do the hardest thing a parent ever has to do: put their son to rest. More than 1,000 law enforcement officers from around the nation, representing virtually every state, attended Trooper Weaver's funeral to say goodbye to their brother. Police uniforms of every color and squad cars of every design followed Trooper Weaver, lights flashing, to escort him to his final resting place in Martinsburg.

Trooper Weaver lived up to the call of honor of the Pennsylvania State Police, which states:

I am a Pennsylvania State Trooper, a soldier of the law. To me is entrusted the honor of the force. I must serve honestly, faithfully, and if need be, lay down my life as others have done before me, rather than swerve from the path of duty. It is my duty to obey the law and to enforce it without any consideration of class, color, creed or condition. It is also my duty to be of service to anyone who may be in danger or distress, and at all times so conduct myself that the honor of the force may be upheld.

My prayers are with Trooper Weaver's family, and the entire region that is struggling to make sense of this loss. Rest easy, Trooper, and may God bless every man and woman in the law enforcement community.

RECOGNIZING THE 95TH BIRTHDAY
OF CLARENCE "BUD" ANDERSON

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 95th birthday of Clarence "Bud" Anderson. A Colonel in the United States Air Force, Bud is a veteran of both the Vietnam War and World War II, where he achieved the status of "triple ace" after shooting down a total of 16¼ enemy planes and was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest honor bestowed by Congress.

Born in Oakland, California, Bud grew up on a farm near Newcastle, California and joined the United States Army as an aviation cadet in 1942, where he soon received his commission as second lieutenant in the United States Air Force. In the Second World War, Bud flew with the 363rd Fighter Squadron of the 357th Fighter Group and tallied 116 missions in his P-51D Mustang, nicknamed Old Crow.

In 1944 and at the young age of 22, Bud had already reached the rank of Major before returning home to the United States in 1945. He then became a fighter test pilot before serving as a Wing Commander on another tour of duty in Vietnam. Bud retired as a Colonel in 1972 and has been decorated 25 times for his service in the United States Air Force. In 2008, Bud Anderson was inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame.

I've been proud to call Bud a friend of mine for several years. He is a true patriot and someone who is more than deserving of the accolades he has received throughout his life and career. Our nation would be grateful to have more Americans like Bud Anderson.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL
OF THE LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Centennial Year of the Lions Club International.

Founded by Melvin Jones in June, 1917, the Lions Club was established as a place where men of, "drive, intelligence and ambition," could come together and, "put their talents to work improving their communities." It was Jones' vision that the Lions Club become the global leader in community and humanitarian service.

Indeed, 100 years later the Lions Club has become an international movement with 1.4 million men and women across nearly 200 countries—including my hometown of Woodville, Texas. Across the globe, the Lions Club is empowering volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding. As a Lions Club member myself, I share this commitment to serving others.

My own club, in Woodville Texas is part of Lions Club District 2-S1, and the 36th Congressional District that I represent is encompassed by both Lions Club Districts 2-S1 and 2-S2. Members within these districts are paragons of servant leadership, and have mobilized to support countless worthy causes across Texas—including natural disaster recovery, vision screenings and diabetes awareness. I want to take the time to personally thank each Lions Club within these two districts, and commend the dedication and servant leadership that each Lion gives to their community.

District 2-S1: Alto Lions Club, Angelina County Ladies Lions Club, Beaumont Breakfast Lions Club, Beaumont Founders, Beaumont South/Forest Park Lions Club, Beckville Lions Club, Bridge City Lions Club, Buna Lions Club, Burkeville—Toledo Bend Lions Club, Carthage Noon Lions Club, Center Noon Lions Club, Chester Lions Club, Corrigan Lions Club, Cushing Lions Club, Diboll Lions Club, Dick Dowling Lions Club, Garrison Lions Club, Groveton Lions Club, Hampshire Fannett Lions Club, Hemphill Lions Club, Jacksonville Lions Club, Jasper Evening Lions Club, Jasper Lions Club, Kirbyville Lions Club, Lamar University, Little Cypress Lions Club, Livingston Lions Club, Lufkin Evening Lions Club, Lufkin Host Lions Club, Lumberton Lions Club, Metro Lions Club, Nacogdoches Breakfast Lions Club, Nacogdoches Ladies Lions Club, Nederland Professional Lions Club, New Summerfield Lions Club, Newton Lions Club, Onalaska Greater Lions Club, Orange Lions Club, Orange Noon Lions Club, Panola County Lions Club, Port Arthur Founders, Port Neches Lions Club, Rusk Lions Club, San Augustine Lions Club, Shelbyville Lions Club,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Silsbee Lions Club, Sour Lake Lions Club, South County Breakfast Lions Club, Spurger Lions Club, Trinity Lions Club, Vidor Lions Club, Winnie Stowell Lions Club, Woodville Lions Club.

District 2–S2: Alief Lions Clubs, Anahuac Lions Clubs, Barbers Hill Lions Clubs, Baytown Lions Clubs, Brookshire/Pattison Lions Clubs, Cleveland Lions Clubs, Conroe Noon Lions Clubs, Crosby Lions Clubs, Cut and Shoot Family Lions Clubs, Dayton Noon Lions Clubs, Deer Park Lions Clubs, Hardin Lions Clubs, Hempstead Lions Clubs, Houston Aldine & Spring Area Lions Clubs, Houston City-Fair Lions Clubs, Houston Founder Lions Clubs, Houston Fil-Am Lions Clubs, Houston Greenspoint Lions Clubs, Houston Heights Lions Clubs, Houston Hobby Airport Lions Clubs, Houston Lady Lions Clubs, Houston Memorial Lions Clubs, Houston Midwest Lions Clubs, Houston Millennium Lions Clubs, Houston Northwest Lions Clubs, Houston Royal Oks Lions Clubs, Houston Southwest Lions Clubs, Houston Space City Lions Clubs, Houston Sports Lions Clubs, Houston Spring Branch Lions Clubs, Houston Westbury Lions Clubs, Huffman Lions Clubs, Humble Lions Clubs, Humble Noon Lions Clubs, Huntsville Lions Clubs, Katy Lions Clubs, Kingwood Lions Clubs, Klein Lions Clubs, La Porte Lions Clubs, Liberty Lions Clubs, Magnolia Lions Clubs, Montgomery Lions Clubs, Panorama Lions Clubs, Pasadena Lions Clubs, Prairie View A&M University Lions Clubs, Sam Houston State University Lions Clubs, South Montgomery County Lions Clubs, The Woodlands Lions Clubs, Tomball Lions Clubs, Twin City Lions Clubs, Walker County Lions Clubs, Waller Lions Clubs.

On behalf of the 36th Congressional District of Texas, I commend the Lions for their 100 years of service to our communities across East Texas, to our nation and to those in need across the world.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS: THE TRUMP ADMINIS- TRATION NOMINEES

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the House Committees on the Judiciary and Homeland Security Committee; Ranking Member of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, and the Congressional Voting Rights Caucus, I rise today to express my views regarding the more troubling nominations made by the President-Elect to fill the important Cabinet posts at the Departments of Justice, Health and Human Services, and Energy.

Let me begin with the nomination of U.S. Senator JEFFERSON BEAUREGARD “JEFF” SESSIONS III of Alabama to be the next Attorney General of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, those of us who oppose the nomination of Senator SESSIONS to be Attorney General owe a responsibility to the public to be clear and forthright in stating the reasons they believe he should not be confirmed as the Attorney General of the United States.

Many of the senator’s supporters, ranging from his Republican colleagues in the Senate to current and former staffers to home state friends and constituents, praise the senator for his modesty and courtesy and manners.

The four-term senator and former state and federal prosecutor is, we are told, learned in the law, a person of deep faith, a good man who loves his family, his state, and his country.

We can, as the lawyers say, stipulate that these assertions are true.

But that does not make him an appropriate and deserving candidate to be Attorney General of the United States.

And that is because the office of Attorney General and the Department of Justice he or she leads is different in a very fundamental way from every other Cabinet department.

Unlike the Secretary of Transportation or Commerce or Education, or even the Secretary of Defense or State, the Attorney General leads a department that is charged with administering the laws and enforcing the Constitutional guarantees and protections that directly affect every American, all 320 million of us.

To quote then-Senator JOSEPH BIDEN during the 2001 confirmation hearing of Attorney General nominee John Ashcroft:

This Cabinet position is the single most unique position of any Cabinet office.

For it’s the only one where the nominee or the Cabinet officer has an equally strong and stronger, quite frankly, responsibility to the American people as he does to the person who nominates him.

At that same confirmation hearing, Sen. DICK DURBIN of Illinois observed that “the attorney general, more than any other Cabinet officer, is entrusted with protecting the civil rights of Americans.”

The Attorney General is not the lawyer for the President; the Attorney General is the lawyer, and the Department of Justice the law firm, for the American people.

That is why I agree so strongly with then-Senator BIDEN when he said in 2001:

[F]or the office of attorney general, first, the question is whether the attorney general is willing to vigorously enforce all the laws in the Constitution, even though he might have philosophical disagreements.

[The second question is] whether he possesses the standing and temperament that will permit the vast majority of the American people to believe that you can and will protect and enforce their individual rights.

Put another way, the U.S. Attorney General and Justice Department is not only the instrument of justice but also the living symbol of the Constitution’s promise of equal justice under law.

Mr. Speaker, the nation’s greatest Attorney Generals conveyed this commitment to equal justice by their prior experience, their words and deed, and their character.

Think Herbert Brownell, Attorney General for Republican President Eisenhower, who overaw the integration of Little Rock’s Central High School.

Think Robert Jackson, Attorney General for Democratic President Franklin Roosevelt, who led the prosecution team at the Nazi War Crimes trial in Nuremberg, Germany.

Think Robert F. Kennedy, for whom the Main Justice Building is named, bringing to bear the instruments of federal power to protect Mississippi Freedom Riders and to stare

down Governor George Wallace in the successful effort to integrate the University of Alabama.

The nomination of Alabama Senator SESSIONS as Attorney General does not inspire the necessary confidence.

As a U.S. Senator from Alabama, the state from which the infamous Supreme Court decision in *Shelby County v. Holder* originated, Senator SESSIONS has failed to play a constructive role in repairing the damage to voting rights caused by that decision.

He was one of the leading opponents of the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

He is one of the Senate’s most hostile opponents of comprehensive immigration reform and was a principal architect of the draconian and incendiary immigration policy advocated by the President-Elect during the campaign.

And his record in support of efforts to bring needed reform to the nation’s criminal justice system is virtually non-existent.

In 1986, ten years before Senator SESSIONS was elected to the Senate, he was rejected for a U.S. District Court judgeship in view of documented incidents that revealed his lack of commitment to civil and voting rights, and to equal justice.

And his Senate voting record and rhetoric has endeared him to white nationalist websites and organizations like Breitbart and Stormfront.

As a U.S. attorney, Senator SESSIONS was the first federal prosecutor in the country to bring charges against civil rights activists for voter fraud.

Senator SESSIONS charged the group with 29 counts of voter fraud, facing over 100 years in prison.

Senator SESSIONS has repeatedly denied the disproportionate impact of voting restrictions on minorities and has been a leader in the effort to undermine the protections of the Voting Rights Act.

Senator SESSIONS has spoken out against the Voting Rights Act, calling it “a piece of intrusive legislation.”

Senator SESSIONS criticized Attorney General Eric Holder for challenging state election laws, claiming they are necessary to fight voter fraud.

However, evidence supports that voter fraud is almost nonexistent, with 31 confirmed cases out of more than 1 billion ballots cast.

As Attorney General of the state of Alabama, Senator SESSIONS fought to continue practices that harmed schools predominantly attended by African-American students.

Senator SESSIONS led the fight to uphold the state of Alabama’s inequitable school funding mechanism after it had been deemed unconstitutional by the Alabama circuit court.

In the state of Alabama nearly a quarter of African-American students attend apartheid schools, meaning the school’s white population is less than one percent.

Although Senator SESSIONS has publically taken credit for desegregation efforts in the state of Alabama, there is no evidence of his participation in the desegregation of Alabama schools or any school desegregation lawsuits filed by then Attorney General SESSIONS.

Mr. Speaker, the United States has been blessed to have been served as Attorney General by such illustrious figures as Robert Jackson, Robert Kennedy, Herbert Brownell, Ramsey Clark, Nicholas Katzenbach, Eric Holder, and Edward H. Levi.

Nothing would do more to reassure the American people that the President-Elect is committed to unifying the nation than the nomination and appointment of a person to be Attorney General who has a record of championing and protecting, rather than opposing and undermining, the precious right to vote; the constitutionally guaranteed right of privacy, criminal justice reform, and support for reform of the nation's immigration system so that it is fair and humane.

Regrettably, Sen. JEFF SESSIONS of Alabama is not that person and he should not be confirmed by the Senate to be the nation's 84th Attorney General.

REVEREND PAUL MARTIN
KWIATKOWSKI

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Reverend Paul Kwiatkowski, who passed away in early December.

Rev. Kwiatkowski was known throughout Northwest Ohio for his intellect, humor, knowledge, and empathy. Ordained a priest at St. Peter Basilica in Rome in 1964, Father Kwiatkowski has dedicated his entire life to serving the people in parishes at Our Lady of Lourdes, Holy Spirit Seminary, St. James, Immaculate Conception, and St. Hedwig in Toledo, as well as St. Mary Parish in Bluffton and St. Joseph Parish in Maumee. St. Hedwig is notable as Father Kwiatkowski's great-grandfather was one of the original bricklayers of the church in 1891. He was incredibly dedicated to the parishes and the communities he served, a truth highlighted in Rev. Kwiatkowski's presence as a violinist with the Perrysburg Symphony for 45 years.

As many parents do, Rev. Kwiatkowski's parents, Ted and Evelyn, knew he was musically inclined from a young age. Few parents experience the joy of knowing their child is also inclined to serve others. When neighborhood children gathered to play, Rev. Kwiatkowski often pretended to be their priest. His dream was realized when he enrolled in seminary studies at St. Meinrad Seminary in Indiana and the Pontifical North American College in Rome.

His devotion to people and his community led him to accept a teaching position at his alma mater, Central Catholic High School, after his retirement. Father Kwiatkowski's parishioners, students, family and friends, were buoyed by the joy and fellowship he brought into their lives each and every day. For many who knew him, the first words to describe the Reverend would be "fun" and "compassionate." A man with a bright, infectious spirit, Father Kwiatkowski will be dearly missed. He was an institution unto himself in Northwest Ohio, and will long be remembered as such.

In every parish community he served, Father Paul left a neighborhood and his church property in an improved condition. Buildings were restored, streets paved, festivals established, church celebrations enhanced. He was gifted and kind.

As a fellow Polish-American, I will remember his participation every Memorial Day at the Veterans' Mass at Mt. Carmel Cemetery in To-

ledo. He arranged for an organ to be brought on site, he played the violin as his vestments blew in the soft spring breeze, he distributed communion to the gathered worshippers who were dressed so royally for the solemn occasion. Fr. Paul made each occasion beautiful and worthy of the people he served. He was an extraordinary diocese priest who cared and shepherded his flock with great love.

JAMES "BIMBO" BREWER

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the loss of a Northeast Georgian whose voice has touched tens of thousands in the Ninth District.

To the Hall County community James "Bimbo" Brewer was known as a cheerful radio personality. For many years, his personality and storytelling brought happiness and entertainment to not only those who tuned in to his show, but also to those who were close to him.

"Bimbo" was a dedicated servant to the people of Gainesville. He volunteered as deacon at his church and later joined the Hall County Sheriff's Office, where he worked as an advocate for crime victims and their families.

In that role, Bimbo walked with many Hall County citizens through the trials and heartbreak that fall on the victims of violent crimes. Reverend Bill Couch of the First Baptist Church of Gainesville said it best when he described "Bimbo" as someone who "no matter how traumatic the scene . . . was strong and dependable."

The Ninth District of Georgia will always remember this encouraging, steadfast member of our community. Mr. Speaker, I ask that we all keep his loved ones in our thoughts and prayers in the coming days, as we reflect on Bimbo's many contributions to our corner of Georgia.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. DAVID
SHULKIN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on January 11th, President-elect Donald Trump nominated Dr. David Shulkin to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Dr. Shulkin has served as the undersecretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs for Health since June 2015. Having seen the inner-workings of the Department of Veterans Affairs, he is an excellent candidate to reform the department and serve the needs of our veterans.

President-elect Donald Trump said that he has "no doubt Dr. Shulkin will be able to lead the turnaround our Department of Veterans Affairs needs. His sole mandate will be to serve our veterans and restore the level of care we owe to our brave men and women in the mili-

tary. Dr. Shulkin has the experience and the vision to ensure we will meet the healthcare needs of every veteran."

I am confident in the appointment of Dr. David Shulkin and I look forward to working with him in this new role. He will continue the promotion of positive reforms by former House Veterans Affairs Chairman Jeff Miller of Florida.

In conclusion, God Bless our Troops and may the President by his actions never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

SUPPORT FOR ACA—THE STORY
OF ONE ALABAMIAN

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, More than 20 million Americans woke up today with the security of health coverage they didn't have 8 years ago. Of the Americans who stand to lose their health insurance under the GOP repeal plan, 82 percent are from working families, including 150,000 enrollees in my State of Alabama.

Despite facts, Republicans have done a remarkable job convincing the American people, even those who are on the exchanges, that the ACA only benefits people who don't work. They perpetuate the tired fallacy that ACA, Medicaid, and even Medicare recipients are living off the government without contributing to our economy.

Mr. Speaker, this brings me to a story about Hank Adcock. Hank is a life-long farmer who has been working on his family farm in Alabama for the majority of his 62 years. Back in 2015, his hands got stuck in a hay baler and he lost his right hand. Before the ACA, Hank's family hadn't had health coverage since the 1980s. His ACA policy ended up covering his entire hospital bill, which he says could have cost him his farm if he hadn't had insurance. If the farming work that Hank, his wife, Sharon, and their children have committed their lives to isn't enough to qualify as "hard work" to my Republican friends, then I suggest we let Hank and Sharon come up here to Washington while we all go down to North Alabama to trade jobs for a few days.

The ACA is far from perfect. This is why I have worked across the aisle to try to make meaningful changes to the ACA that don't compromise the law's benefits. But after 7 years of engaging in a fact-free, taxpayer-funded crusade against the ACA, the GOP should have a stellar replacement plan that we can all agree on.

Every member in this body has constituents who have insurance because of the ACA. While I understand that the law is unpopular in many districts across the country, political expediency has no place in this hallowed body, especially when the economy and American lives are at stake.

The American people deserve a Congress that will work together to fix what's wrong with the ACA and build upon what's working. We need to work towards increased access, market stabilization and cost reduction. I stand ready to work with my colleagues to achieve these goals and protect the millions of Americans who like Hank were at one time just one medical emergency away from financial ruin.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on roll call votes 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, and 54, I was not present because of an urgent family matter. Had I been present, I would have voted: on Roll Call Vote 46: AYE, on Roll Call Vote 47: AYE, on Roll Call Vote 48: AYE, on Roll Call Vote 49: AYE, on Roll Call Vote 50: AYE, on Roll Call Vote 51: NAY, on Roll Call Vote 52: NAY, on Roll Call Vote 53: AYE, on Roll Call Vote 54: NAY.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 12, 2017, I erroneously voted "yes" on roll call vote 52, an amendment to H.R. 238 offered by Mr. Conaway of Texas. I intended to vote "no" on the amendment.

HONORING RUFUS SAMES FOR HIS
TIRELESS WORK TO BETTER THE
LIVES OF MAINERS**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a tireless advocate in my state who is retiring after nearly two decades of working to improve the lives of his fellow Mainers.

In 1997, Rufus Sames began his 19-year career with the Maine Department of Labor, starting as a Claims Taker and ending as a Labor Program Specialist. Through it all, he has lifted the burdens of claimants, employers, and advocates with prompt help, good information, and a deep understanding of the stresses individuals and families face navigating the maze of benefits following job loss and transition.

For years, whenever my staff has had a question about unemployment benefits in my state, Rufus was there to respond, often with a message sent in the wee hours of the morning when he arrived at his desk at the crack of dawn. He has been tireless, good-hearted, efficient, and effective, and will be missed immeasurably.

Public servants like Rufus are unsung heroes. He has touched many lives with his can-do spirit and deep commitment to serving the people of Maine.

I wish him all the best in his retirement and thank him wholeheartedly.

TRIBUTE TO THREE POWER
LINEMEN VOLUNTEERS**HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize three of my constituents, Mr. Anthony Spaeth, Mr. Lucas Bakken, and Mr. Troy Seter, who volunteered three weeks of their time to build and upgrade power lines in Haiti. They work for Lake Region Electric Cooperative in Pelican Rapids, MN.

These men decided to put their skills to work as power linemen in an area that desperately needs help. They were selected and sent to Haiti by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) International, a non-profit development corporation which helps build energy distribution infrastructure in regions of need.

Mr. Spaeth, Mr. Bakken, and Mr. Seter worked side-by-side with NRECA International on the U.S. Agency for International Development-funded Pilot Project for Sustainable Electricity Distribution in Haiti. This project is commercializing power from the Caracol Industrial Park generation station that is currently serving more than 10,000 Haitians in Caracol, a community in northern Haiti. These volunteers provided their expertise to NRECA International to eventually connect 20,000 Haitians in the local area with electricity.

Only thirteen percent of Haitians currently have access to electricity. This alarming statistic provided an opportunity for these three men to impact the lives of thousands of Haitians who depend on reliable electricity for health care services, education, and economic expansion. Today, I urge lawmakers to join me in commending Mr. Anthony Spaeth, Mr. Lucas Bakken, and Mr. Troy Seter for their service.

RECOGNIZING SIGNIFICANCE OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**HON. JOYCE BEATTY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, January 16, 2017, our nation will signify the tremendous life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Each year, on the third Monday in January, we remember and celebrate a man who led a non-violent movement that urged our country to become more fair and more just and provide equal opportunity for all.

As our nation honors the life of Dr. King, I call to mind his statement, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: what are you doing for others?"

This year, on what would have been his eighty-eighth birthday, countless people in my home state of Ohio are answering his call to serve by advocating for civil rights and greater access and equal opportunity at the ballot box, inspiring the next generation of community and national leaders, helping the sick, elderly, and poor and many more profound acts of service.

Like Dr. King, they understand the power and impact of service—not just on our com-

munity and State, but on our entire country and across the world. We all need to be more and do more for others and to promote unity and peace. This is of what Dr. King dreamed.

Because this day isn't meant to be a "day off," it is meant to be a "day on": a day on of service.

In that spirit, as we celebrate the thirty-first MLK Day of Service, I challenge all Americans to make a difference in their community.

Indeed, that is how we can best honor Dr. King's legacy and how we make his dream—where we are not judged by the color of our skin, but by the content of our character—a reality for all people.

Happy Birthday Dr. King. He should be pleased his legacy endures.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF THE BLACK PANTHER
PARTY**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Black Panther Party.

Originally called The Black Panther Party for Self Defense, the Party was founded in 1966 by Huey Newton and Bobby Seale in response to the wide-spread poverty, lack of economic and educational opportunities, and police oppression experienced by the African American community in Oakland, California.

Promoting the idea of "All Power to the People", and unwilling to wait for the political and social leaders of the time to address the needs of the African American community, the Panthers took action themselves to force change and bring about liberation from all forms of human exploitation and oppression.

The most immediate need that the Party addressed was the rampant abuse of power by the police, and they soon began undertaking patrols and holding rallies to highlight incidents of police brutality throughout the East Bay. The images of armed Panthers storming the State House in Sacramento in 1967 in opposition to the Mulford Act brought national attention to these efforts, and highlighted the dire circumstances that many African Americans experienced on a daily basis.

Beyond self-defense, the Panthers undertook a wide assortment of social programs to help improve the quality of life for inner-city blacks, organized around the Party's Ten-Point Program. The Panthers started a free breakfast program for children, medical clinics, drug and alcohol rehab programs, free groceries and clothing giveaways, legal aid, education and a housing cooperative, among other initiatives.

As the Panthers numbers and influence grew nationwide, federal authorities saw their work as a threat to national security and undertook operations to monitor, obstruct, and undermine the party's activities. FBI Director Hoover even called the Party the "greatest threat to the internal security of the country" in 1968, and directed the covert "COINTELPRO" to neutralize the Party and its members.

Despite this opposition by the authorities, throughout the 1960's and 1970's the Panthers became a national force for social

change, empowering a new generation of African Americans to seize political power, partnering with other disenfranchised communities around the country, and demonstrating that the legacy of slavery and racial oppression still prevented so many from experiencing the promise of prosperity and equality that is the foundation of the American dream.

I must also personally thank former Party Chairwoman Elaine Brown for her bold leadership, for being a strong role model for African American women, and for her friendship. Since 1971 I have witnessed her ability to face challenges with "righteous indignation" and a deep love for all people who lack power in our country. I was proud to work on her trailblazing campaign for Oakland City Council, and learned from her the importance of focusing on issues that have the ability to improve people's daily lives. For that I am deeply grateful.

As we see so apparently every time another young African American is shot by police, the work of the Panthers is far from done. On behalf of California's 13th Congressional District, where the Panthers first came together and where their efforts were headquartered, I extend my sincerest congratulations to the Black Panther Party on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Thank you to all who continue the work to combat racial oppression, and work for a world of true justice, peace, and equality.

RECOGNIZING MILTON VFW POST
483, JOHN O. CONNOR POST

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Milton VFW Post 4833, John O. Connor Post, in Northwest Florida. This month the Post will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary.

For five decades, this Post has been committed to serving our Nation's veterans. In the past year alone, they have made seventeen visits to area hospitals in support of ill or injured veterans, conducted funeral services for two combat veterans, and sponsored two handicap ramps for veterans.

The Post's commendable care for their community is exemplified by some of their service acts including conducting a cleanup and beautification of Strickland Cemetery, prompting other local organizations to follow suit, and placing more than three hundred flags and wreaths on gravesites of local veterans.

The members of Post 4833 have proven their enthusiasm for engaging the youth in our communities by participating in and funding a local Eagle Scout project, overseeing local submissions to the VFW's Voice of Democracy scholarship program, and by briefing the local Boy Scout pack on proper handling of the American flag.

Additionally, Post 4833 has demonstrated impeccable generosity by organizing three major fundraisers in support of veterans in need, sponsored facilities that house the offices for Disabled American Veterans serving in the Pace and Milton area, provided funding to the Veteran's Dive Locker program, assisted two families by providing grant money for temporary lodging, and donated one thousand two hundred dollars for transportation

services of disabled veterans. This year the Post has provided an impressive amount of donations, grants, and assistance; including over eight thousand dollars to Veterans' Programs, three thousand dollars to college grant foundations, and one thousand dollars to summer student leadership courses.

I would like to personally thank all of the members of Milton Post 4833 and specifically recognize the Post's Officers: Post Commander Mike Messer, Senior Vice Commander Bill Ross, Treasurer Chris Williams, and Chaplain Florencio "Cho" Ramirez. Under the officers' leadership, the Post has accomplished increased involvement with community programs and has demonstrated a laudable degree of service for veterans.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize VFW Post 4833 for their long history of unwavering service to veterans and their community, and sincerely congratulate them on celebrating their 50th Anniversary.

COMMEMORATING 31ST ANNIVERSARY OF REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, this Monday, January 16, the nation observes for the 31st time the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

Each year this day is set aside for Americans to celebrate the life and legacy of a man who brought hope and healing to America.

The Martin Luther King Holiday reminds us that nothing is impossible when we are guided by the better angels of our nature.

Dr. King's inspiring words filled a great void in our nation, and answered our collective longing to become a country that truly lived by its noblest principles.

Yet, Dr. King knew that it was not enough just to talk the talk, that he had to walk the walk for his words to be credible.

And so we commemorate on this holiday the man of action, who put his life on the line for freedom and justice every day.

We honor the courage of a man who endured harassment, threats and beatings, and even bombings.

We commemorate the man who went to jail 29 times to achieve freedom for others, and who knew he would pay the ultimate price for his leadership, but kept on marching and protesting and organizing anyway.

Dr. King once said that we all have to decide whether we "will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness."

"Life's most persistent and nagging question," he said, is "what are you doing for others?"

And when Dr. King talked about the end of his mortal life in one of his last sermons, on February 4, 1968 in the pulpit of Ebenezer Baptist Church, even then he lifted up the value of service as the hallmark of a full life:

I'd like somebody to mention on that day Martin Luther King, Jr. tried to give his life serving others," he said. "I want you to say on that day, that I did try in my life . . . to love and serve humanity."

We should also remember that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was, above all, a person who was always willing to speak truth to power.

There is perhaps no better example of Dr. King's moral integrity and consistency than his criticism of the Vietnam War being waged by the Johnson Administration, an administration that was otherwise a friend and champion of civil and human rights.

Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in Atlanta, Georgia on January 15, 1929.

Martin's youth was spent in our country's Deep South, then run by Jim Crow and the Ku Klux Klan.

For young African-Americans, it was an environment even more dangerous than the one they face today.

A young Martin managed to find a dream, one that he pieced together from his readings—in the Bible, and literature, and just about any other book he could get his hands on.

And not only did those books help him educate himself, but they also allowed him to work through the destructive and traumatic experiences of blatant discrimination, and the discriminatory abuse inflicted on himself, his family, and his people.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. that we celebrate here today could have turned out to be just another African-American who would have had to learn to be happy with what he had, and what he was allowed.

But he learned to use his imagination and his dreams to see right through those "White Only" signs—to see the reality that all men, and women, regardless of their place of origin, their gender, or their creed, are created equal.

Through his studies, Dr. King learned that training his mind and broadening his intellect effectively shielded him from the demoralizing effects of segregation and discrimination.

Dr. Martin Luther King was a dreamer.

His dreams were a tool through which he was able to lift his mind beyond the reality of his segregated society, and into a realm where it was possible that white and black, red and brown, and all others live and work alongside each other and prosper.

But Martin Luther King, Jr. was not an idle daydreamer.

He shared his visions through speeches that motivated others to join in his nonviolent effort to lift themselves from poverty and isolation by creating a new America where equal justice and institutions were facts of life.

In the Declaration of Independence in 1776, Thomas Jefferson wrote, "We hold these truths to be self evident, that all Men are Created Equal."

At that time and for centuries to come, African-Americans were historically, culturally, and legally excluded from inclusion in that declaration.

Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" Speech, delivered 53 years ago, on August 28, 1963, was a clarion call to each citizen of this great nation that we still hear today.

His request was simply and eloquently conveyed—he asked America to allow of its citizens to live out the words written in its Declaration of Independence and to have a place in this nation's Bill of Rights.

The 1960s were a time of great crisis and conflict.

The dreams of the people of this country were filled with troubling images that arose

like lava from the nightmares of violence and the crises they had to face, both domestically and internationally.

It was the decade of the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Vietnam War, and the assassinations of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Malcolm X, Presidential Candidate Robert Kennedy, and the man we honor here today.

Dr. Martin Luther King's dream helped us turn the corner on civil rights.

It started when Dr. King led the Montgomery Bus Boycott, with Rosa Parks and others, that lasted for 381 days, and ended when the United States Supreme Court outlawed racial segregation on all public transportation.

But the dream did not die there.

It continued with a peaceful march for suffrage that started in Selma, Alabama on March 7, 1965—a march that ended with violence at the hands of law enforcement officers as the marchers crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

Dr. King used several nonviolent tactics to protest against Jim Crow Laws in the South and he organized and led demonstrations for desegregation, labor and voting rights.

On April 4, 1967, at Riverside Church in New York City, he spoke out against the Vietnam War, when he saw the devastation that his nation was causing abroad and the effect that it had on the American men and women sent overseas.

When the life of Dr. Martin Luther King was stolen from us, he was a very young 39 years old.

People remember that Dr. King died in Memphis, but few can remember why he was there.

On that fateful day in 1968 Dr. King came to Memphis to support a strike by the city's sanitation workers.

The garbage men there had recently formed a chapter of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees to demand better wages and working conditions.

But the city refused to recognize their union, and when the 1,300 employees walked off their jobs the police broke up the rally with mace and billy clubs.

It was then that union leaders invited Dr. King to Memphis.

Despite the danger he might face entering such a volatile situation, it was an invitation he could not refuse.

Not because he longed for danger, but because the labor movement was intertwined with the civil rights movement for which he had given up so many years of his life.

The death of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will never overshadow his life.

That is his legacy as a dreamer and a man of action.

It is a legacy of hope, tempered with peace.

It is a legacy not quite yet fulfilled.

I hope that Dr. King's vision of equality under the law is never lost to us, who in the present, toil in times of unevenness in our equality.

For without that vision—without that dream—we can never continue to improve on the human condition.

For those who have already forgotten, or whose vision is already clouded with the fog of complacency, I would like to recite the immortal words of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.:

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and

the sons of former shareholders will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the State of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but for the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day down in Alabama with its vicious racists, with its Governor having his lips dripping with words of interposition and nullification—one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough place will be made plain and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

Dr. King's dream did not stop at racial equality, his ultimate dream was one of human equality and dignity.

There is no doubt that Dr. King wished and worked for freedom and justice for every individual in America.

He was in midst of planning the 1968 Poor People's Campaign for Jobs and Justice when he struck down by the dark deed of an assassin on April 4, 1968.

It is for us, the living, to continue that fight today and forever, in the great spirit that inspired the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

BERNADETTE J. WINHOVEN

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memoriam of Bernadette "Bubbles" Winhoven.

Bernadette passed away fourteen years ago on December 9. Her family dearly remembers her as a bright spirit that left this world too soon, fondly recalling how she encouraged and inspired everyone who came into contact with her. Bernadette inspired me to seek to become a Congresswoman. Our friendship dated back to elementary school at Little Flower Parish. She was the young student who loved "twirly" skirts. Bernadette's life should serve as a template for all of us. She was an exemplary citizen who simply wanted to improve the lives of those around her. The sense of community she created for those who knew her has continued to thrive in the years since her passing, and is certain to continue into the future, sustained by the friends and family she knew and loved.

I am confident that Bernadette's family and friends were deeply cherished and that she gave them the very best in life. Her role in their lives will forever be exemplary, guiding their decisions, inspiring kindness and good humor in all situations. She will continue to always be there to help, advise and to give to everyone she has crossed paths with.

In remembering Bernadette, I am reminded of the words by St. John Chrysostom: "They

whom we love and lost are no longer where they were before. They are now wherever we are." I know the family and friends of Bernadette feel her presence with them daily, and hope they find comfort in knowing she is with them during every milestone and small step in between. We offer her family our prayers and hope they continue to find comfort in their wonderful memories of "Bubbles."

TRIBUTE TO CYNDI MONROE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Corona in Riverside County, California are exceptional. On Thursday, January 19th, Cyndi Monroe will be honored as the Citizen of the Year by the Corona Chamber of Commerce.

Cyndi is the founder of Christian Arts and Theatre (CAT), a non-profit performing arts education program for children. For more than 17 years, thousands of children have participated in CAT's award-winning program. The CAT Ambassadors Program encourages young members of our community to share their incredible talents at community events, such as Chamber of Commerce gatherings, concerts in the park, and various holiday festivals.

In addition to giving back to the community through CAT, Cyndi is an active member and Past President of Soroptimist International of Corona. Cyndi is a tireless advocate for Corona and fostering partnerships that bring people together to better serve our community. As an author, playwright, and inspirational speaker, Cyndi has enriched the cultural opportunities for every Corona family.

In light of all that Cyndi has done for the community of Riverside County and the city of Corona, it is only fitting to honor her as Citizen of the Year. Cyndi has contributed immensely to the betterment of our region and I am proud to call her a fellow community member, American and a constituent of the 42nd Congressional District. I add my voice to the many who will be congratulating Cyndi Monroe on being named Citizen of the Year by the Corona Chamber of Commerce.

HONORING COACH BARBARA CAMPBELL

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, there are coaches that have the exceptional ability to cultivate greatness within an athlete, a team, and school. They can help an athlete live up to his or her potential and challenge them to exceed every goal and expectation set before them. Today, I rise to honor Coach Barbara Campbell who has exemplified these traits and led her team to another State Championship this past fall. She has made a tremendous impact during her tenure coaching the Brentwood High School volleyball team in Brentwood, Tennessee.

Barbara Campbell has been coaching at Brentwood High School since 1988. She has a record of over 1500 wins, twelve State Champions and seven state runner-ups. She has a reputation of creating well-rounded and hardworking athletes who have continued their volleyball careers beyond high school. She pushes each player to not only be motivated in athletics, but academics as well and fosters character development with student success.

Brentwood High School is a powerful force in volleyball. These young athletes have made their mark in the world of high school athletics due to the talented persistence and drive of Coach Barbara Campbell. Now I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Coach Campbell for the numerous successes and wins she has accomplished and for the investment she has made in the lives of our communities and young people.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF ANDY SIGMON

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress, we know that the key to a successful congressional office is to recruit the best and brightest people to serve the people we represent. Today I want to recognize a valued staff member, Andy Sigmon, who is leaving my office after 6½ years of faithful service to me, and to my constituents in Southwest Ohio.

Andy graduated from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, the city where he was born and raised. He moved to my congressional district to attend law school, and earned his law degree from the University of Dayton. He joined my office as an intern in 2010, and quickly moved up the career ladder to legislative assistant. For the past 16 months he has served as my legislative director.

Andy has had a direct role in the success of many of my top legislative priorities. In 2013, he helped gather bipartisan support among the Ohio congressional delegation, which enabled Central State University, one of our nation's oldest historically black institutions of higher education, to achieve land-grant status.

His input and knowledge has been indispensable to my work on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, particularly in my efforts to hold the Obama administration accountable for its decision to cut the pension and health benefits of the Delphi Salaried Retirees, following the government's bailout of General Motors. Andy has taken a heartfelt interest in seeking justice for the Delphi retirees in my district, and directed my efforts to restore the Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC), which thousands of Delphi Salaried Retirees have used to offset their increased healthcare costs.

Andy Sigmon's hard work, loyalty, and public service exemplify his home state's Volunteer spirit. He is one of the finest people you could ever work with, or call a friend. I will always be grateful for his work these past six years on behalf of the people of Ohio's Tenth Congressional District. I wish him all the best as he begins the next chapter in his career.

NATIONAL PHARMACIST DAY

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Pharmacist Day, which celebrates the work of pharmacists across America.

Pharmacists dedicate their lives to the health and wellbeing of their patients. They ensure their customers receive their medications properly and provide invaluable advice to those they serve.

In particular, I'd like to recognize the independent and community pharmacists in Northeast Georgia and across the United States, who play an essential role in the rural health ecosystem. In fact, pharmacists serve as the primary point of contact with the healthcare system for over 62 million Americans today.

Community pharmacists ensure that patients have access to affordable, lifesaving medications in rural areas throughout Georgia and across the United States. Often, these pharmacists are more than a face behind the counter—they are neighbors, friends, community leaders, and providers of advice and care. These local pharmacists live and work alongside their patients, building lasting relationships and regularly seeing their patients at church, school, and the grocery store. These strong relationships ensure quality care for patients, who bring their medical questions and concerns to their community pharmacist.

I know from my own experience what a difference a trusted pharmacist can make.

It is a privilege to thank and recognize pharmacists across our nation for their hard work today, on National Pharmacist Day. I will continue supporting our nation's pharmacists and working to ensure that patients have access to care from their local and community pharmacists for years to come.

JEFFREY BALLOU

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my constituents, Jeffrey Ballou, who takes up new responsibilities today as the 110th President of the National Press Club.

Jeff is a Pittsburgh native, the son of Geneva and Henry Ballou. He grew up in Pittsburgh's Homewood-Brushton neighborhood, and he attended Taylor Alderdice High School before going on to earn his undergraduate degree in journalism from Penn State University and his graduate degree in journalism and public affairs from American University. Jeff is an unwavering fan of Pittsburgh's legendary sports teams—the Pirates, the Steelers, and the Penguins.

Jeff started his career in journalism working for CONUS Communications covering the White House. He subsequently worked as planning editor for Fox Television Channel 5, WTTG, here in Washington, DC. He worked at C-SPAN and National Public Radio as well. He's spent roughly the last ten years at Al

Jazeera Media Network, first as its Deputy News Editor and then as Editor of its 24-hour English language news channel.

Throughout his career, Jeff Ballou has demonstrated a strong commitment to objective journalism and to improving the profession. He served on the Executive Committee of the Radio & Television Correspondents Association, for example, and he served as President and National Committee Co-Chair of the National Association of Black Journalists.

Finally, he has been actively involved in the National Press Club, which proudly claims the title of "the world's leading professional organization for journalists." For more than a hundred years, the National Press Club has been a prominent organization in the field of journalism and an advocate for free press around the world. Jeff has been a member of the National Press Club since 1992 and served on its board from 2014 to 2015. Jeff was elected to serve as Vice President of the organization over the past year, and in recognition of his extensive experience in journalism and his proven leadership skills, Jeff was elected to serve as the 110th President of the National Press Club for the coming year.

I am confident that Jeff's many years of experience have prepared him well for his new responsibilities as President of this storied institution. I want to congratulate Jeff on this honor—and new opportunity to improve the profession of journalism, and I wish him a successful term as the 110th President of the National Press Club.

RECOGNIZING PAUL MICKELSON

HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Paul Mickelson—a constituent who dedicated his life's work to public service in his community, his state, and abroad.

Paul Mickelson began his career in public service by joining the Beloit Fire Department. He worked there for 26 years serving several roles including motor pump operator, firefighter, and ambulance attendant. Paul also honorably served as the Fire Department's Union Representative and Union President.

After his retirement from the Beloit Fire Department, Paul joined the U.S. Peace Corps and served in Cameroon. While he was there, he fell in love with the country and wanted to give back to the community where he worked. He founded Paul's Computer Institute (PCI) in Bamenda, Cameroon in 1997 which focuses on delivering high levels of professional training based in the Information and Communication Technology sectors. Thanks to Paul's hard work and dedication to increase access to high quality education and professional training, the PCI has become one of the largest and most respected computer training centers in West Africa.

For all his contributions to public service, Paul was recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow by Rotary Club and was honored by Beloit College for his work and success with PCI.

Paul's commitment to education and public service will live on through the Beloit community and the school he built in Cameroon.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the life of Mr. Paul Mickelson today.

A DECADE OF SERVICE

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a Minnesota public servant. After nearly a decade of service to his community, my friend, and St. Michael Mayor. Jerry Zachman is retiring from his post.

Jerry has deep roots in St. Michael as he is a part of the fifth generation of his family to live there and these strong ties to his beloved community no doubt inspired Jerry to serve.

As the community began to grow and develop, his main goal was to ensure St. Michael residents were always put first. I think that it's safe to say that Jerry did just that.

During his ten years as mayor, Jerry has made numerous improvements to this ever-growing city. One major project Jerry played a huge role in is the expansion of the I-94 corridor, which cuts through Minnesota's Sixth District.

I would like to thank Jerry for his unwavering dedication to St. Michael and to our great state, and I wish him nothing but the best in his future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NO CONGRESSIONAL CONSENT FOR PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP TO ACCEPT FOREIGN EMOLUMENTS OF ANY KIND WHATSOEVER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the Constitution clearly states: "No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State."

The law defines public service as a public trust. It requires government employees to place loyalty to the Constitution, and laws and ethical principles above private gain. At his inauguration, President-elect Donald J. Trump will swear an oath to uphold the Constitution. Given the immensity of Mr. Trump's business dealings, grave concerns exist that he will immediately be in violation of this oath. Every one of his personal investments will pose a conflict of interest. Any ongoing foreign business relationship threatens to violate the Constitution's Emoluments Clause. The Constitution must be upheld.

Our Founding Fathers identified the principles important to the bedrock of our democracy; they included an anticorruption measure known as the Emolument Clause. Its inclusion emphasized their desire to preserve independence from external influence. There is no question this principle should apply to this President, as it has to every other President of our nation.

Mr. Trump has achieved great wealth and his investments spread across the United States and dozens of foreign countries. His personal finances are directly impacted not only by our own policy but also by policies adopted in other nations. His debt obligations pose great conflicts of interests and the possibility of hidden influences will eclipse every action and decision Mr. Trump makes. There is no way to be sure of the full depth of Mr. Trump's conflicts. He continues to refuse to release his tax returns, a key component of accountability provided by every President and presidential candidate since Richard Nixon.

When asked what he will do to eliminate the conflicts, Mr. Trump has said it's "a very simple situation" and "routine." Yet, thus far, he has not explained how he will address the conflicts. Meanwhile, there has been little division between Mr. Trump's business interests and his transition. This fly-by-the-seat-of-your-pants approach is unconstitutional and dangerous to liberty.

Our Founding Fathers would not accept this uncertainty and subversion of the Constitution. They constructed the Clause to clearly forbid self-serving dealings. They established a clear baseline of unacceptable conduct, rather than force after-the-fact judgement. Further, they granted Congress the power to validate exchanges.

This is why I am introducing a joint resolution, the "No Congressional Consent for President Donald J. Trump to Accept Foreign Emoluments of Any Kind Whatsoever." It empowers Congress to act by explicitly denying consent for Mr. Trump to accept any and all emoluments, whatever they may be.

The resolution details that since the President is a federal office holder, he is subject to the strict scrutiny of the Emolument Clause. As such, the President cannot accept any Emolument without the consent of Congress and since emolument is broadly qualified, the consent or denial is in effect for a full spectrum of transactions. Specifically, these transactions include emoluments from foreign States and corporations owned or controlled by foreign governments. Further, the resolution explicitly denies Congressional consent for Mr. Trump's acceptance of any emolument, whatever it may be and requires President Trump to report back to Congress on specific action taken to ensure his compliance with the Emoluments Clause.

Mr. Speaker, Congress must act to uphold our Constitution and decide what should be allowed and what cannot be tolerated with Mr. Trump's business dealings. Without full sunlight and full separation of private interests from the public trust, we must deny any acceptance of any emolument.

RECOGNIZING MRS. OLIVIA S. JACKSON

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Mrs. Olivia S. Jackson on her 88th birthday, which was December 13, 2016. Mrs. Jackson celebrated her birthday on January 7th in Chicago with her family and friends.

I am hopeful that she has many birthdays to come and wish her all the fun and joy in celebrating throughout the year.

REGARDING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY DURING 2016

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address an increasing concern about the threat against our law enforcement officers, many of whom have been killed by civilians in the line of duty this past year.

We must honor and protect the men, and women that wake up every day to put their lives on the line for us, making an incredible sacrifice to keep their communities safe.

Without them our communities would be broken and our nation would be left fragmented.

Today more than 900,000 law enforcement officers serve the people of this nation, risking their lives for the communities they serve.

Last year proved to be one of tremendous violence, witnessing the loss of 140 law enforcement officers' lives across the nation—65 of whom died from gun violence alone.

Texas experienced the highest rate of law enforcement killings in the line of duty during, tolling 19 deaths—seven of whom were killed as a result of gun violence.

Dallas Police Department:

Senior Corporal Lorne Bradley Ahrens, July 8, 2016;

Officer Patricio E. Zamarripa, July 7, 2016;

Sergeant Michael Joseph Smith, July 7, 2016;

Officer Michael Leslie Krol, July 7, 2016.

Dallas Area Rapid Transit Police Department:

Officer Brent Alan Thompson, 7/7/16.

Euless Police Department:

Officer David Stefan Hofer, 3/1/16.

San Antonio Police Department:

Detective Benjamin Edward Marconi, 11/20/16.

Today I rise in solidarity with the police departments and communities mourning the loss of their loved ones.

These brave men and women risk their lives to keep us safe and are too often taken from their families by the violence they toil to prevent.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence in memory of all of the Law Enforcement officers killed on the line of duty during 2016.

HART COUNTY LIBRARY

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication and enthusiasm of the team at the Hart County Library, located in Hartwell, Georgia.

The library, which had its humble beginnings in 1938 as a small lending library, has continuously sought to educate and inspire

residents in the community it serves. In 2015, the Georgia Public Library Service established a Library Awards program to recognize individuals and libraries that provide outstanding service and achievements within Georgia's public library system.

Hart County Library has been recognized as Georgia's Public Library of the Year for 2016,

which is a testament to the professionals who positively impact the lives of residents through their expertise and service.

Georgia currently has 400 public library facilities, and Georgia's Library Awards program has created a tremendous amount of awareness and support for public libraries, reading, and imagination across Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the staff of the Hart County Library for their work to make these achievements possible. These individuals have truly invested in the community by promoting a more educated and enlightened Georgia.